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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN. *Library*

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Honorable, the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan:

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to submit the following as my report on the libraries of the University for the College year, 1891-2:

There were in all of the libraries, September 30, 1892, 82,347 volumes, 15,930 unbound pamphlets, and 726 maps.

Of these there were in the General Library 65,942 volumes, 14,868 unbound pamphlets, and 726 maps; in the Law Library, 10,744 volumes; in the Medical Library, 5,089 volumes, and 1,062 unbound pamphlets; and in the Library of the Dental College, 572 volumes.

During the year 331 periodicals were regularly received, as follows: in the General Library, 200; in the Medical Library, 91; in the Law Library, 7; and in the Library of the Dental College, 13. Furnished by the Students' Lecture Association, 20.

THE GENERAL LIBRARY.

The additions to the General Library during the year were 3,677 volumes, 308 unbound pamphlets, and 125 maps. Of these, 2,598 volumes, and 97 unbound pamphlets were bought; 758 volumes, 211 unbound pamphlets, and 125 maps were given, and 321 volumes the results of binding periodicals.

The total amount of bills certified to by me for purchases for this library was \$6,159.31. Of this sum, \$4,553.33 were for books and pamphlets; \$737.43 were for subscriptions to periodicals, and \$868.55 were for binding and mending.

I have heretofore reported certain sums paid out for supplies, as catalogue cards, readers' slips, etc., which sums were paid from the current expense fund. As all of the bills for such supplies do not come to the library, it is misleading for me to report such as do come, and I have thought it best to omit all reference to these expenses hereafter.

Of the sum of \$250.00 appropriated by the Board in June, 1887, for the purchase of books on Systematic Zoölogy, there remained on Oct. 1, 1891, the sum of \$6.43. This balance has been expended.

Of the equal appropriation (\$250) made by the Board in June, 1892, for the purchase of books for the Biological Laboratory, there had been expended, October 1, the sum of \$122.83.

GIFTS.—There have been the usual gifts of public documents from the National government, and from the State government. A few other states, notably Ohio and New Jersey, also send such of their documents as are of general interest. Senator McMillan has taken pains to place us in the list of most favored libraries in the distribution of the documents of the General Government, hereafter. For some of these documents it had been necessary, up to this time, to write, either to our Member of Congress, or to the head of a department of the government. Mrs. C. H. Richmond, Mrs. J. D. Baldwin, and Mrs. Chas. Tripp, residents of Ann Arbor, have given a large number of public documents, and odd volumes and odd numbers of scientific periodicals. Out of the latter we have been able to fill gaps existing in sets of our own periodicals. Contributions of this nature are very acceptable; and I am constrained to say, here, that there are probably in the attics of many houses in the state, much matter of this kind, viz., odd volumes of public documents, odd numbers of magazines, old and unused books, pamphlets, reports, etc., etc.—matter, which is not only not valued, but which is in the way. If this shall meet the eyes of any one having such matter he is earnestly requested to box it up and send it to us at our expense.

C. M. Burton, Esq., of Detroit, has continued to furnish the Stevens Facsimiles of MSS. in European Archives. Vols. 12, 13, and 14 were received during the year. Dr. L. G. Doane, of New York City, has remembered us very frequently. A number of the volumes given by him were works by his father, the late A. Sydney Doane, M. D. These were "author's copies" from the publishers, and were in fine bindings. Dr. Doane, also, gave a large number of plates of Skin Diseases, of exceptional value. Mr. John MacFarlane, of Detroit, gave a number of volumes of English Classics, some of them rare editions. Valuable gifts were also received from President Angell, and Professors Demmon, Hudson, Walter, Hinsdale, and many others.

USE OF THE LIBRARY.—The *recorded* use of the library, which is about two-thirds of the total use, was 139,457 volumes. This is a gain of nearly 10,000 volumes over the greatest previous record.

Forty-two students were admitted to the use of the Book-room under the rule of admission explained in previous reports.

During the two semesters 420 students were admitted to the Seminary Rooms, 182 to the East Room for the study of History,

Political Economy, Philosophy, Education, Literary Criticism and Esthetics; and 238 to the West Room for the study of English, French, and German Literature, and Greek and Latin Literature and Art.

CONDITION OF THE LIBRARY.—A larger number of volumes than in any previous year were sent to the binder to be mended, or rebound, according to the necessities of the case. As the library grows in extent and use there will, of course, be a corresponding increase in the sums to be expended for repairs. There was a special reason for the unusually large number of volumes rebound and mended during this year, and the previous year. A change in methods of instruction brought into frequent use a great number of old, leather bound books. The leather had lost its vitality and gave way at once when the books were handled.

As a result of the binder's labors, the books may be reported as in a fair condition—all of them.

The assistant in charge of circulation reports 70 volumes as missing. Seven (7) of these he regards as stolen.

It is the policy of the Library Committee of the Faculty to provide the library with those Dictionaries that will afford the most assistance in determining the etymology and usage of words. It is not their policy, however, (neither is it a proper function of a library) to provide dictionaries for mere purposes of translation. I have, nevertheless, kept in the case for reference books in the Reading Room, two or three dictionaries of each of the languages studied generally, as Greek, Latin, French and German, for the use (in translating) of those whose rooms are at a distance from the Campus, and who would find it inconvenient to go thither between recitations. These dictionaries are such as I have been able to obtain cheaply at auction sales, and for which I have generally paid with money obtained from the sale of old paper, and not with the money appropriated for the purchase of books. These are the books that have been stolen, and, under the circumstances, I may be pardoned for regarding the thefts as particularly atrocious ones.

In regard to the remaining 63 volumes, reported missing, the probability is that they have been misplaced and will be found again. The janitor completed the dusting of the books on the third floor and will resume operations again very soon on the first.

THE LIBRARY FORCE.—Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Jordan remain in the administrative rooms, and Mr. Finney in charge of the circulation of books. I desire to express my great gratification at the action of the Board in advancing the salaries of these gentlemen. Without the skilled and faithful labor thus secured the service of the



